Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) An isolated nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:6.

2-3. (Canceled)

4. (Previously Presented) The nucleic acid of claim 1, wherein the nucleotide sequence comprises SEQ ID NO:5.

5. (Previously Presented) An isolated nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence that hybridizes to SEQ ID NO:5 or the complete complement thereof under conditions of incubation at 45°C in 6.0X SSC followed by washing in 0.2X SSC/0.1% SDS at 65°C, wherein the nucleotide sequence encodes a polypeptide that stimulates apoptosis.

6. (Previously Presented) An expression vector comprising the nucleic acid of claim 1.

7. (Previously Presented) An isolated host cell containing the expression vector of claim 6.

8-10. (Canceled)

11. (Previously Presented) A method for producing a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:6, the method comprising culturing the host cell of claim 7 under conditions in which the polypeptide is expressed.

12-20. (Canceled)

21. (Previously Presented) The nucleic acid of claim 1, wherein the polypeptide consists of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:6.

22. (Previously Presented) An isolated nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence that encodes a polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence that is at least 85% identical to the sequence of SEQ ID NO:6, wherein the polypeptide stimulates apoptosis.

23. (Previously Presented) The nucleic acid of claim 22, wherein the amino acid sequence is at least 95% identical to the sequence of SEQ ID NO:6.

24. (Previously Presented) The nucleic acid of claim 22, wherein the amino acid sequence is at least 98% identical to the sequence of SEQ ID NO:6.

25. (Previously Presented) An isolated nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence that is at least 85% identical to the sequence of SEQ ID NO:5, wherein the nucleotide sequence encodes a polypeptide that stimulates apoptosis.

26. (Previously Presented) The nucleic acid of claim 25, wherein the nucleotide sequence is at least 95% identical to the sequence of SEQ ID NO:5.

27. (Previously Presented) The nucleic acid of claim 25, wherein the nucleotide sequence is at least 98% identical to the sequence of SEQ ID NO:5.

28-29. (Canceled)

30. (Currently Amended) An isolated nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence that encodes a fusion protein consisting of ~~polypeptide comprising~~ amino acid residues 1-91, 188-506, or 688-1056 of SEQ ID NO:6 and a heterologous polypeptide.

31. (Currently Amended) The nucleic acid of claim 30, wherein the fusion protein consists of ~~polypeptide comprises~~ amino acid residues 1-91 of SEQ ID NO:6 and the heterologous polypeptide.

32. (Currently Amended) The nucleic acid of claim 30, wherein the fusion protein consists of ~~polypeptide comprises~~ amino acid residues 188-506 of SEQ ID NO:6 and the heterologous polypeptide.

33. (Currently Amended) The nucleic acid of claim 30, wherein the fusion protein consists of ~~polypeptide comprises~~ amino acid residues 688-1056 of SEQ ID NO:6 and the heterologous polypeptide.

34. (Previously Presented) The nucleic acid of claim 1, further comprising a sequence encoding a heterologous polypeptide.

35. (Previously Presented) The nucleic acid of claim 22, further comprising a sequence encoding a heterologous polypeptide.

36. (Canceled)

37. (Previously Presented) An expression vector comprising the nucleic acid of claim 22.

38. (Previously Presented) An isolated host cell comprising the expression vector of claim 37.

39. (Previously Presented) The host cell of claim 38, which is a mammalian host cell.

40. (Previously Presented) A method for producing a polypeptide, the method comprising culturing the host cell of claim 39 under conditions in which the nucleic acid is expressed.

41. (Previously Presented) An expression vector comprising the nucleic acid of claim 30.

42. (Previously Presented) An isolated host cell comprising the expression vector of claim 41.

43. (Previously Presented) The host cell of claim 42, which is a mammalian host cell.

44. (Previously Presented) A method for producing a polypeptide, the method comprising culturing the host cell of claim 43 under conditions in which the nucleic acid is expressed.